Shortage of capacity to lift export Cargo

1601. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of capacity for lifting cargo by air meant for exporting; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to overcome the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Open Sky Policy' has been extended upto December 1992 to enable scheduled and non-scheduled operators—Indian and Foreign—to operate any number of ad-hoc cargo flights out of India with inward loading rights. Air India is hiring additional capacity of 270 tonnes per week for operating shuttle flights to the Middle East for interlining to destinations in Europe|USA. Air India is acquiring COMBI aircraft to offset directional imbalance in cargo traffic. Demurrage free period has been increased to 15 days from six days.

Resignation tendered by Vayudoot Managing Director

1602. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Managing Director, Vayudoot tendered his resignation after the aircrash of Dornier near Pune; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following the fatal accident involving an aircraft of Vayudoot Limited near Pune on the 23rd September, 1989, the Managing Director, Vayudoot Limited submitted a letter on the 26th September, 1989 tendering his resignation.

Flying Club at Hudaspar Gliding Club, Pune

1603. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a flying club at Hudaspar Gliding Club, Pune and also to handover the club to the National Airports Authority of India to cater to the needs of the flying club and also to other civil aircrafts; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of Goa Civilian Airport

1604. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in possession of land offered by Goa Government for the expansion of Goa civilian airport; and

(b) if so, by when the work would commence and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Goa-Bombay Flights

1605. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals from Goa Chamber of Commerce and other institutions to alter the

timings of Goa-Bombay flights so as to have one flight in the morning and the other in the evening for convenience of the business community;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to fulfil this demand and when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to shortage of aircraft capacity, it has not been found possible to increase the frequency.

Closing of IA office in Srinagar

1606. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have closed their regular office in Srinagar;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid inconvenience to passengers wanting to make bookings for travel from the city?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The City Office of Indian Airlines at Srinagar has been functioning partially on account of law and order situation. Whenever there is normalcy and the local staff report for duties, passengers are attended to through a window and telephonic enquiries are also answered. However, when curfew is imposed, the City Booking Office cannot function. To avoid inconvenience to the passengers, enquiries/ticketing counters have been provided at Srinagar airport.

Proposal to name Delhi Airport after Sri Kamraj

1607. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been any proposal to name the International Airport at Delhi (Terminal-II) after Sri Kamraj; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not accepting the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The International Airport at Delhi has already been re-named as Indira Gandhi International Airport with effect from 19-11-85.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Plant load factors of Power Stations

1608. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI ALIA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Plant load factor of power stations in various States and those managed by the Central Electricity Authority for this month as compared to the position six months ago; and

(b) whether there is any improvement or deterioration?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority does not operate any Power Station. A statement indicating State-wise plant load factor of thermal stations under various State Electricity Boards during August, 1989 & February, 1990 is enclosed.